APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 359 asked by Sri A. A. Rasheed at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 1st February 1961, page 232 supra.]

Report on the steps taken to immunise horses from "South African Horse Sickness" in the Madras State.

The following precautionary measures have been taken by the Animal Husbandry department to check the ingress of the South African Horse Sickness into this State on receipt of the communication from the Government of India in December 1959 :—

1. The field staff of the Animal Husbandry department have been informed about the prevalence of this disease in Pakistan and have been asked to be on the alert and report immediately any suspicious case of South African Horse Sickness occurring in their jurisdiction.

2. The Secretary, South India Turf Club, Madras, has been requested to have one or two fly proof stalls constructed in the Race Course premises to isolate suspicious cases of South African Horse Sickness, if any, to be quarantined.

3. The Principal, Madras Veterinary College, has been requested to keep the fly proof stall in the Madras Veterinary College readily available in the event of any suspected case of South African Horse Sickness to be quarantined.

4. The District Veterinary Officer, Madras, who is in charge of inspecting all imported animals on arrival, has in response to the instructions of the Director of Animal Husbandry already addressed the Railway, Port and Customs authorities requesting them to take necessary action to enforce the Notification No. 13-181/59 LD of Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, dated 10th December 1959, prohibiting import into India of equine species of animals including horses, asses and mules of any breed, age or sex from Pakistan, Afghanistan or Goa, by land, air or sea. These authorities have been specially requested by the Director of Animal Husbandry to inform the District Veterinary Officer, Madras, immediately, in the event of any horse being imported by land, sea or air so as to enable him to perform the duties of the Veterinary Officer under the Madras Livestock (Import) Quarantine Rules, 1944.

5. A Press Communique giving a short description of the disease easily understandable to the horse owners has been released as early as February 1960, and they have been requested to bring to the notice of the nearest Veterinary Surgeon immediately both in the city as well as in the districts, any suspicious case of this disease among horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.